



Los Angeles County
Children's Planning Council
Improving Children's Lives

June 17, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVE THE ATTACHED AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR TO THE AGREEMENT NUMBER 71891 WITH THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING COUNCIL FOUNDATION, INC., TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT TERM FOR FIVE YEARS

(All Districts) (Three Votes)

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve and instruct the Chair to sign the attached Amendment Number Four to Agreement Number 71891 (Attachment A) for various joint planning and training services with The Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc., with a maximum contract amount of \$510,000 per fiscal year, effective July 1, 2008, and terminating on June 30, 2013, coinciding with the Children's Planning Council sunset review date.

Attachment B contains a report of the accomplishments for the regional system of nine councils created by the Children's Planning Council and supported by the Interagency Operations Group (IOG) in the County's eight service planning areas and the American Indian community—collectively known as the SPA/AIC Councils—for fiscal years 2006–2007 and 2007–2008. Attachment C is the detailed report of accomplishments for the IOG for fiscal years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008.

PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Children's Planning Council (the Council) was established by the Board of Supervisors in 1991 as a public/private body to formulate the vision and goals, and promote the

planning and coordination needed, to improve results for Los Angeles County children and their families.

In August 1996, the Council formed The Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc. (the Foundation), to serve as its fiscal arm—to raise, receive, and disburse monies to support the work of the Council.

In February 1997, the Board entered into Agreement Number 70563 with the Foundation, which laid out the mutual interest and responsibility for the Council on the part of Los Angeles County and the Foundation, and provided that the \$135,000 annual County allocation for the Council be paid to the Foundation. The Board approved an increase in this allocation to \$245,000 in July 2001. In October 2003, the Board entered into Agreement Number 74628, which continued the agreement to June 30, 2008.

In December 1998, the Board approved Agreement Number 71891 with the Foundation for various joint planning and training services for fiscal years 1998–1999 and 1999–2000, with a maximum contract amount of approximately \$500,000 per fiscal year. On May 23, 2000, the Board approved Amendment Number One to extend this Agreement through June 30, 2003. On June 4, 2003, the Board approved Amendment Number Two to extend this Agreement through June 30, 2006, and to increase the allocation to approximately \$600,000 per fiscal year. On May 30, 2006, the Board approved Amendment Number Three to extend this Agreement through June 30, 2008, with a funding allocation of \$510,000 per fiscal year.

JUSTIFICATION:

Various County departments and public and private agencies serving children continue to collaborate—with each other, with the Children's Planning Council, and with the SPA/AIC Councils—to better integrate planning and service delivery for the County's children and families. In the last two years, this work has deepened to include a stronger focus on more deliberate partnerships between County agencies and community residents on efforts to improve the five outcomes of child well-being (good health, safety and survival, economic well-being, social and emotional well-being, and education and workforce readiness). Through its work with County health and human services leaders and with the County Board of Supervisors, the Council's collaborative planning efforts and community-based input have helped transform the systems that affect children. This work has helped County agencies work more collaboratively, do a better job of integrating services across departments, more deeply focus on outcomes, collect and share data more effectively, and invest in the Council's community building work.

The Interagency Operations Group (IOG) plays a vital role in providing technical assistance as well as a space for departmental representatives to set the course for meaningful community building efforts in collaboration with community residents. Demonstration Impact Grant funding is an example of how County health and human services

agencies partner with community residents through the SPA/AIC Councils to demonstrate how small-scale experiential and relational work can directly integrate residents in results-based and responsible achievements toward improving the lives of children and families. The Children's Planning Council's work on the issues of juvenile justice and planning for the prevention and early intervention component of the Mental Health Services Act demonstrate how the Council and SPA/AIC Council-based efforts can complement existing departmental vehicles for community input.

The vision of creating a bridge between County government and community through the SPA/AIC Councils is coming to fruition through enhanced partnerships with the County, the IOG, and the Chief Executive Office. Key to this vision is ensuring that meaningful processes engage the community in the County change agenda. The Council's expertise is in translating the community reality to public systems and translating public systems to community residents.

Representatives of County departments and agencies serving children have pledged monies to support this public/private partnership by continuing to:

- Strengthen the infrastructure of the nine SPA/AIC Councils. Subject to Board approval, five County departments: Children and Family Services, Health Services, Mental Health, Public Social Services, and Probation) have each agreed to provide up to \$65,000 each and County Public Library has agreed to provide up to \$10,000, in allocated planning monies in fiscal years 2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, 2011–2012, and 2012–2013 to the Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc., for this purpose.
- Enhance the capabilities of the SPA/AIC Councils and various County departments, their staff, and their SPA/AIC Council representatives to effectively partner with the community and improve the delivery of services for children and families. Subject to Board approval, five County departments (Children and Family Services, Health Services, Mental Health, Public Social Services, and Probation) have each agreed to provide up to \$34,000 and County Public Library has agreed to provide up to \$5,000 in allocated planning monies in fiscal years 2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, 2011–2012 and 2012–2013 to the Foundation to:
 1. Secure technical/consultant support for the IOG, a body chaired by various County departments on a rotating basis and charged with promoting the County's Vision for children and families by accelerating the implementation of, and generating solutions that remove operational barriers to, integrated services
 2. Engage in activities that support and accelerate the County's vision for children and families through the implementation of solutions that remove operational barriers to integrated services, and enhance alignment among County priorities and initiatives;

3. Support departmental staff to better understand their roles as members of the SPA/AIC Councils, and to support interdepartmental efforts to explore how best to link departmental community planning initiatives to the work of the SPA/AIC Councils and community building efforts. Support, to be provided by the IOG and CPC through the Center for Community Building, (CCB) can include the facilitation of interdepartmental dialogues, access to subject matter experts, presentations, the facilitation of County-community working sessions, and other assistance for collaborative planning efforts like the Demonstration Impact Grants (DIG), through which departmental staff strengthen their relationships with community residents by engaging in experiential learning about community building.

In addition, over \$2 million dollars has been raised to date by the Council from the private sector to fund several key activities in fiscal years 2006 through 2008. An additional \$5.5 million has been raised through a partnership with First 5 LA to help the Council strengthen its core to engage communities, institutions, and the SPA/AIC Councils on policy and data-driven projects leading to improved outcomes of child well-being.

Consistent with past practice, the IOG Leadership Team will conduct an annual review of the IOG Budget at the end of each fiscal year and transfer any unallocated monies to the Children's Planning Council to further support the infrastructure of the SPA/AIC Councils.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

Monies for these projects have already been identified in the various departmental annual budgets. Several of the private foundations that have funded these efforts through the Council require public sector support to demonstrate the public/private partnership approach. Future grants from these foundations would be jeopardized if County departments were not able to partially match these monies.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS:

This Amendment extends the term of the Agreement for five years, through June 30, 2013, and provides for the payment to The Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc., of up to \$510,000 in each fiscal year—2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, 2011–2012, and 2012–2013—with a Foundation match of \$100,000 in each fiscal year for various joint planning and training services. The Foundation will submit to the Board a final expenditure report in August 2013. The Executive Office will administer and monitor the Agreement on the County's behalf. County Counsel has reviewed and approved as to form the attached amendment.

In the event that the ordinance establishing the Children's Planning Council is extended beyond July 1, 2013, this Agreement may be amended, upon the mutual consent of parties and Board approval, to extend the term of this Agreement to coincide with the ordinance extension.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES:


As described in the attachments, through sustained partnerships with the New Directions Task Force, the Chief Executive Office, and various community groups, the Children's Planning Council and the IOG have played key roles in planning and implementing such countywide activities as the County Strategic Plan's Goal 5 (Children and Families' Well-Being), service integration initiatives, systems change efforts, and promoting and supporting community building.

The funds provided through this Agreement will enable the Council, its member departments, and other County departments and agencies to better engage and partner with communities in affecting the five outcome areas for children and families, and to further integrate their planning and service delivery efforts to ultimately improve outcomes for Los Angeles County children and families. Only by combining public and private planning, programming, and resources will the County's Vision for children be achieved:

"Los Angeles County children should reach adulthood having experienced a safe, healthy, and nurturing childhood which prepares them to become responsible and contributing members of the community."

This Amendment will not infringe on the role of the County in its relationship to its residents, and the County's ability to respond to emergencies will not be impaired. There is no risk exposure to the County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Knabe', is written over a printed name and title.

Don Knabe, Chair
Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council

cc: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

Auditor-Controller
Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Director, Department of Health Services
Director, Department of Mental Health
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
County Public Library
President, The Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc.
Interagency Operations Group

ATTACHMENT A

**AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR TO AGREEMENT NUMBER 71891
BETWEEN COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AND THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING COUNCIL FOUNDATION, INC.**

This Amendment Number Four to Agreement Number 71891 is made and entered into at Los Angeles, California this 17TH day of JUNE, 2008, by and between the County of Los Angeles (COUNTY) and The Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc. (FOUNDATION).

WHEREAS, Agreement Number 71891 was originally executed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on December 21, 1998; and

WHEREAS, Amendment Number One to Agreement Number 71891 was approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on June 13, 2000;

WHEREAS, this Amendment Two to Agreement Number 71891 was approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on June 17, 2003; and

WHEREAS, this Amendment Three to Agreement Number 71891 was approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on May 30, 2006; and

WHEREAS, this Amendment Four to Agreement Number 71891 is in accordance with Section 11 (Changes and Amendments).

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual consent herein contained, said Agreement is amended as follows:

1. Section 3. is amended to read:

Section 3. Term

The term of this Agreement shall commence on the date of execution by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and shall terminate on June 30, 2013. This Agreement may be amended, upon the mutual consent of parties and with Board approval.

2. Section 4.2 is amended to read:

71891

Supplement No. 3

Section 4.2 The maximum contract sum for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 is \$500,000. In addition, Foundation shall provide a match of \$250,000 for that period. Beginning with the fiscal year July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, and for each future fiscal year through 2013, County shall contribute \$510,000 to be used for the planning and training expenses of the Foundation.

3. Section 4.3 is amended to read:

Section 4.3 FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTION

Beginning fiscal year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, and for each fiscal year through June 30, 2013, FOUNDATION shall provide a contribution of \$100,000 per fiscal year for the purpose of assisting in the funding of the operations of the FOUNDATION.

4. Section 15.1 is amended to read:

Section 15.1 Notice will be sent to FOUNDATION addressed as follows:

Cheryl Mendoza, Ph.D. (213) 893-0421
Children's Planning Council Foundation, Inc.
500 W. Temple Street, Rm B26, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Section 15.2 Notices and reports shall be sent to County addressed as follows:

Sachi Hamai, Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors
Hahn Hall of Administration Room 383
500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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**AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR TO
AGREEMENT NUMBER 71891**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Amendment Number Four to Agreement Number 71891, to be subscribed by Chair, the seal for said Board to be hereto affixed and attested by the Executive Officer-Clerk thereof, and FOUNDATION has caused this Agreement to be subscribed in its behalf by its duly authorized officer, on the day, month and year first above written.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By

Yvonne B. Bunker
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Sachi Hamai
Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors for the County of Los Angeles

By

[Signature]
Deputy

I hereby certify that pursuant to
Section 25103 of the Government Code,
delivery of this document has been made.

SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By

[Signature]
Deputy

THE CHILDREN'S PLANNING COUNCIL
FOUNDATION, INC.

By:

R. Sharma

Name: Roger Sharma

Title: Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Raymond Fortner
County Counsel

By:

[Signature]
Brandon Nichols
Principal Deputy County Counsel

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

69 JUN 17 2008

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

71891

Supplement No.

1

69 JUNE 17, 2008

SPA/AIC Council Accomplishments

Fiscal Years 2006–2007 and 2007–2008

In May 2006, the Board approved the continuation of an agreement with the Children's Planning Council and the Interagency Operations Group (IOG) for various planning and training efforts that would further the vision of creating a bridge between County government and community through the system of regional councils established by the Children's Planning Council—the eight service planning area (SPA) councils and the countywide American Indian Children's Council, collectively known as the SPA/AIC Councils.

Los Angeles County is home to the greatest number of children of any county in the United States. The Board of Supervisors created the Children's Planning Council as a planning body to advance children's health, safety and survival, economic well-being, social and emotional well-being, and education and workforce readiness. The system of nine SPA/AIC Councils was created to facilitate a community voice in planning and systems transformation.

To develop a stronger link between County government and community, the Children's Planning Council added *strengthening community capacity* and *building a countywide commitment to outcomes* to its theory of change. The ability of the SPA/AIC Councils to be the bridge between County government and community was realized as the councils began to train and mentor parents, youth, community-based agencies, and County departmental representatives to collaborate on community projects and gain systems knowledge from this experiential practice. Various programs and functions within the Children's Planning Council contribute to this multifaceted process and have achieved the stated objectives of this agreement:

- To continue to strengthen the infrastructure of the nine SPA/AIC Councils
- To continue to enhance the capabilities of the SPA/AIC Councils and various County departments, their staff, and their SPA/AIC Council representatives to effectively partner with the community and improve the delivery of services for children and families

SPA/AIC Council Achievements Toward the Five Outcomes

- **Good Health** *Children need routine well-child care as well as timely access to care for all medical, dental, and mental health needs in order to grow up healthy and well.* The SPA/AIC Councils' neighborhood action networks have focused on collaborative community outreach and engagement, promoting healthy diets and fitness, prevention, and access to safe parks and recreational activities.

- Collaborative Community Outreach and Engagement
 - ✓ A Community Health Action Network includes community partnerships with Sycamore-Hathaway, Children's Bureau, and Planned Parenthood (2006–2008).
 - ✓ Over 25 community partners have organized around health issues and are developing a scorecard on healthy eating for children and families in SPA 6 (2007–2008).
 - ✓ A parent collaboration at the Douglas Park Apartments in Compton organized the 2nd Annual Health Fair in Watts with partners that included the Dollarhide Senior Center, Drew Head Start, and Prototypes. The parent organizers also established relationships with the vice president of community development at Wells Fargo bank, who visited residents and offered financial literacy courses to parents (2007).
 - ✓ At a community Health Resources Fair held in the West Subregion of SPA 7, community members obtained immunizations, cholesterol and blood-pressure tests, and diabetes checks, and increased their overall awareness of community health resources (2006).
 - ✓ In response to the alarming rate of childhood obesity plaguing Latino communities, a "Secrets for Good Health, Healthy Families & Healthy Communities" conference addressed the health risks of diabetes, educated families on the disease, and provided participants with tools to help fight it (2007).
 - ✓ Several neighborhood networks participated in "It's Our Healthcare," an advocacy campaign to press state legislators to pass health care legislation.
 - ✓ Based upon a study of the Children's Planning Council's Children's Score-Card and training in a 14-week program, the SPA 7 Council's Huntington Park parent group chose drug prevention awareness as its first community/data-driven project (2007).
- Healthy Diets and Fitness
 - ✓ An "On the Move" campaign was organized in partnership with the L.A. Neighborhood Land Trust to promote healthy family exercise (2007).
 - ✓ The Baldwin Park Parent Action Network hosted informational booths at a local high school health fair and at Baldwin Park's annual City Fair (2006). The group also hosted a Healthy Eating Active Communities meeting, attended by approximately 50 people, to present the views of teenagers on health problems, including smoking and alcohol, and their ideas to promote community health. Participants coordinated a "walk around" of liquor stores to

mitigate the availability of cigarettes and alcohol to children, and completed a survey to identify hazards around their schools (2007).

- ✓ The first 1K/5K Fun Walk and Health Fair at Arcadia County Park addressed childhood obesity, with nearly a thousand people attending and over 40 organizations participating. The Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department volunteered enormous assistance (2006).
- ✓ The Community Health Action Network for the San Pascual Stairs Project developed creative ways to deter graffiti, drug activity, loitering, and public drinking on a public staircase connecting San Pascual Elementary School and Hathaway-Sycamores. The group helped to create a morning and evening physical exercise program for children on the staircase, and also added nutritional health classes at San Pascual Elementary School (2006).
- ✓ SPA 8's Neighborhood Action Councils developed a community garden and mobile grocery with the four Family Support School Readiness Centers and several other entities. An initial planting event at a newly acquired community garden was attended by approximately 250 adults and 150 children. Participants planted more than 250 plants native to Southern California (2006–2007).
- Prevention
 - ✓ Youth were directly involved in event planning and outreach for a Teen Healthy Birth Fair at Antelope Valley High School. The goal of the series was to provide a place where at-risk mothers and adolescent parents could build relationships and social capital so that they could support one another through their pregnancies and child-rearing experiences.
 - ✓ The De Soto Avenue Golden Hearts Parent/Youth Group promoted a “safe and fun” Halloween event as an anti-drug and alcohol-free alternative for youth.
- Safe Parks and Recreational Activities
 - ✓ A Community Construction and Planting Day was held in partnership with the office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Tony Cardenas, the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department, and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust. Approximately 25 adults and youth attended the event and planted more than 100 plants around their neighborhood (2007).
 - ✓ The Community in Action Knowing Circle in East Hollywood helped expand an existing playground at the Rosewood United Methodist Church, located near the intersection of Rosewood and Vermont. The playground's grand opening involved numerous public officials and community members, including First 5 LA Commissioner Corina Villaraigosa (2006).

- **Safety and Survival** *Children need parents and caregivers to protect them from harm; children need to feel safe and secure in order to develop into self-confident adults.* The SPA/AIC Councils' neighborhood action networks have focused on child abuse and neglect, community safety, youth violence reduction and gang prevention, and school safety.
- Child Abuse and Neglect
 - ✓ The newly formed American Indian Child Welfare Taskforce has met monthly, with participation from a wide variety of American Indian advocacy and community groups and public child welfare entities. The Taskforce was successful in bringing together the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services with the American Indian community to improve compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act and child welfare services for the American Indian community (2007).
 - ✓ The "Walk in Balance" community fair addressed child abuse and domestic violence prevention, convening more than 350 community members at Garfield High School (2006).
 - Community Safety
 - ✓ Parents at the Village Point Housing Unit organized to address a variety of safety issues within the area, including unsafe driving, a lack of safe play areas, and trouble caused by uninvited outsiders entering the complex (2007).
 - ✓ The May Court Parent Action Group discussed common concerns such as child care and bullying within the May Court apartment housing complex and at the local school. The group is currently working on bringing in volunteers from Alternatives to Violence to discuss conflict resolution for families and children (2007–2008).
 - Youth Violence Reduction and Gang Prevention
 - ✓ The Yes2Kids/Antelope Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council coordinated an essay contest on child abuse in collaboration with Antelope Valley school districts. The mayors of Lancaster and Palmdale officially proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in response to the contest's success (2006).
 - ✓ A Youth Violence Task Force was convened in partnership with the Los Angeles County Probation Department for a pilot project at Grant High School (2007–2008).
 - ✓ A community forum event called "Our Youth at Risk?" held at Santa Monica's Virginia Avenue Park was an interactive opportunity for parents to talk openly with a diverse panel, including Kevin Rae, a wraparound probation deputy;

Stan Muhammed, executive director of Venice 2000, a local gang prevention and intervention organization; and Paco Retana, a therapist who works with at-risk youth at St. John's Child and Family Development Center (2007).

- ✓ A committee of community volunteers, youth, service agency staff, law enforcement, school district representatives, and SPA 5 Council staff organized a Hip Hop Unity Summit, a safe community-oriented event to counter youth violence and gang activity (2007).
- ✓ Youth from local artist communities used their talents to explore alternatives to gang activity through the South Los Angeles Artist Collaborative. The group held two events, the Personal Politics Art Show at the Southern California Library and the South L.A. MicroTheater Project at KAOS Network's Cine-Freestyle, which showcased art and short films (2007).
- ✓ The Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities committee addresses parent concerns regarding gang violence, and is currently developing trainings and other resources to create local policies to prevent gang involvement (2007–2008).
- ✓ The Juvenile Justice Task Force, formed to address concerns about rehabilitation, representation, education, and length of incarceration, has convened over 45 parents and adult guardians of children incarcerated at Sylmar Juvenile Hall (2007–2008).
- School Safety
 - ✓ A "safety valet" project created through a parent network established a system for the safe drop-off and pick-up of children at the Los Angeles Unified District's Cadre/Broadous Ready for School. A group of parent volunteers has gone through extensive training and continues to facilitate the project (2007–2008).
 - ✓ The Vista del Valle and Summer Parent Action Network persuaded the Claremont City Council and its school board to install a traffic light at a nearby school intersection (2006–2008).
 - ✓ The parent group *Madres al Rescate*, based at Lynwood High School, has become an effective advocate in the neighborhood. To improve security at the school, the group asked the school board to add four additional security guards with better training in communication and in serving a youth population. *Madres al Rescate* has sponsored domestic violence workshops and organized a parent orientation night at the school (2007–2008).
 - ✓ The Douglas Park Apartments' Parent Community Action Network promotes a safe and healthy community in that apartment complex, which has been plagued with crime, with guns even being found in the bushes. Through the

support of the SPA 6 Council, the parents built relationships with one another, planned activities, and took actions to create a safe space for their children to grow and thrive (2006–2007).

- ✓ The Jefferson parent group *Madres en Acción* supports the parents at Jefferson High School with a “police academy” series through which parents built relationships with local police and learned the functions of local law (2007).
 - ✓ An anti-bullying conference attended by approximately 175 residents aimed to educate the community about the problems associated with bullying while teaching them how to affect the issue. The planning committee developed partnerships with the Montebello Unified School District, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the National Compadres Network, *Nuevo Amanecer Latino*, and Latino Family Services (2007).
 - ✓ In partnership with the South Bay Youth Project, the SPA 8 Council hosts and supports “Late Night Sports” at the Rolling Hills Preparatory Gym every Saturday, providing hundreds of young people in the South Bay a safe and sober place to participate in supervised sport activities, as well as to create friendships with other community peers. Attendance varies from 80 to 130 players per week (2007).
- **Economic Well-Being** *The economic well-being of children—clearly tied to the economic well-being of their families—tells us whether children have resources to meet their needs for food, shelter, transportation, child care, health care, and education. The SPA/AIC Councils’ neighborhood action networks have focused on financial education and entrepreneurship.*
- The SPA 3 Council organized parents and other community leaders to host a Family Success Fair in Pomona, which connected more than 250 parents to community resources and educational programs to build family economic success (2006).
 - The SPA 5 Council collaborated on the campaign to get a DASH bus line on the Westside that would allow low-income residents to access a number of health care institutions more directly and affordably (2006–2007).
 - The SPA 6 Council brought together community partners and established a youth group to address community concerns around the issue of economic wellness. The group, which included the Young Entrepreneurship Project, the Youth Performance Project, Inner City Cakemakers, and Downbeat 720 Leaders, worked on a series of activities that trained six adult volunteers to act as trainers/mentors in youth entrepreneurship, who then trained more than 50 youth in basic financial and business practices (2007).

- The SPA 6 Council worked with Emerging Markets and Bank of America through the Council's parent network *Madres en Acción* at Jefferson High School to provide five workshops on family financial literacy (2007).
 - Each year, the SPA 8 Council organizes a school readiness conference, which in 2006 focused on "Building Bridges to Family and Community Prosperity" and the many approaches that businesses, residents, and institutions can use to achieve family economic success. More than 1,000 community members attended (2006). The following year, the event brought together approximately 800 adults (with 230 children in child care) to share valuable information related to community development, social support, education, and political and economic development (2007).
 - In partnership with local area refineries, the SPA 8 Council has developed an education and job training program that prepares area residents for refinery careers. In 2006, the program graduated 31 residents, all of whom were offered full-time positions at area refineries as process technicians. Their average income of prior to participating in the program was \$21,000 per year; their new refinery positions pay \$73,000 per year plus full union benefits (2006).
- **Social and Emotional Well-Being** *Children need warm and secure relationships with parents and other caregivers, and they need to experience positive social interactions with other children to help them develop into self-fulfilling, caring, and responsible adults.*
- A highlight of the American Indian Children's Council's work is the creation of the American Indian Underrepresented Ethnic Populations Subcommittee to participate in the Mental Health Services Act planning process. This subcommittee is composed of community members, American Indian community-based organization staff, and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health leadership (2007).
- **Education and Workforce Readiness** *Children and youth need educational experiences that build their knowledge and skills to help them prepare for the workforce, participate as productive members of society, and reach their highest aspirations. The SPA/AIC Councils' neighborhood action networks have focused on school readiness, literacy and achievement, special-needs education, parent engagement, educational equity, and higher education.*
- **School Readiness**
 - ✓ A community engagement effort brought the voices and values of Los Angeles parents to the First 5 LA Universal Preschool planning process. In partnership with First 5, and through the hard work of the SPA/AIC Councils and other community partners, over 3,000 families participated in a multi-language survey that is helping to inform the development of the universal preschool system.

- ✓ The School Readiness and Family Empowerment Fair raised awareness around how families can support the readiness of their young children for school across the Antelope Valley.
- ✓ The SPA 8 Council just hosted its 13th Annual School Readiness Summit.
- ✓ School readiness collaborative meetings hosted in partnership with First 5 LA have focused on safety for children and families and on parenting skills.
- Literacy and Achievement
 - ✓ A community Literacy Fair at Jesse Owens Park, meant to educate children on the importance of reading, included storytelling, music, and arts and crafts. More than 200 community members attended, and children from Head Start programs were provided new books to take home with them.
 - ✓ The Pacoima Initiative—a group of 30 to 40 parents, community members, and representatives from community-based organizations—focuses on low test scores among children in the group, and how factors such as immigration status and neighborhood safety can affect school performance.
 - ✓ A Homework Assistance Room, a space for children to complete their homework with the assistance of tutors, was developed through a collaborative relationship with Parents and Neighbors in Action of Baldwin Park and the Baldwin Park United Methodist Church (2006).
- Special-Needs Education
 - ✓ The Cypress Park parent group focuses on advocating for children with special needs, parent's rights, school systems, and advocacy. Participants have built a strong network and support one another by attending school-based parent meetings.
 - ✓ SPA 5's Special Needs Family Support Advocates parent group focuses on teaching other parents who have children with special needs to navigate the special education programs at local school districts, sharing information and resources and strengthening their support network through active participation in the SPA 5 Council.
- Parent Engagement
 - ✓ SPA 4 neighborhood networks have developed plans for parent-led campus patrols at Wilson High School and have supported efforts to bring dual-language immersion programs to Highland Park's elementary schools.
 - ✓ Approximately 50 parents and representatives from schools and organizations have convened to build relationships among parents and institutions, to

learn about the structure of the Los Angeles Unified School District, and to understand the rights of parents with children in the schools (2007).

- ✓ In an “educational equity” workshop, lawyers from the Learning Rights Law Center helped small groups of parents identify the barriers they face in their child’s education and developed an individual action plan for each parent who attended (2007).
- Higher Education
 - ✓ The “Indian Family Fun Day—Soaring through Education” at East Los Angeles Community College promoted higher education and family literacy to American Indian children and their families, increased awareness of current education legislation, and focused on improved communication between parents and children on school performance. Over 300 American Indian community members attended the event (2007).
 - ✓ American Indian Children’s Council networks worked with the California Nations Indian Gaming Association to develop a bill that would provide tuition waivers to California-resident American Indian students who are applying to two- and four-year colleges based on financial need for state-recognized tribes (2007).

Community Training and Leadership

At the core of the SPA/AIC Councils’ community work is the development of resident, parent, and youth networks that foster learning and mobilization at the local level.

➤ Resident Development

- The SPA 1 Council conducted recruitment and outreach activities through door-to-door outreach, flyers, and phone calls for an “Oktoberfest Celebration” that more than 150 families attended (2006).
- The SPA 3 Council conducted an asset-mapping process of Asian/Pacific Islander institutions and parent and youth networks in SPA 3 with the assistance of a UCLA intern proficient in Chinese and Vietnamese (2006).
- In partnership with the Children’s Bureau, the SPA 4 Council created the Community in Action Knowing Circle in East Hollywood, which has been building parents’ capacity to organize and advocate for their families by engaging in a number of community clean-up and building projects, including a recently expanded playground (2006–2008).
- The SPA 4 Council organized *Colegio de Liderazgo*, a collaborative of community and labor organizations centered in the Macarthur Park neighborhood. The

collaborative planned and led trainings for 40 residents using popular education methods to teach community organizing skills (2007–2008).

- The SPA 8 Council supported over 30 neighborhoods actions councils throughout the South Bay region. These groups worked to build relationships among residents and mobilize community members to improve their communities. Projects include the implementation of a volunteer crossing guard system to ensure safe passage to school for children, computer training and health services classes, parent support groups and informal therapy sessions, a walking group to support residents in living healthier lives, regular playground cleanup schedules so that children have a safe, clean environment in which to play, and nutrition workshops where parents are given healthy recipes for their families (2006–2008).
- The American Indian Children's Council held its 10-year anniversary celebration at the Autry National Center. The event drew 250 attendees and highlighted the scope and breadth of the AICC's work around child welfare, family economic success, youth organizing, data, community forum follow-up, and educational policy (2007).
- The system of nine councils organized the countywide *Youth Rise Up!* conference at California State University, Los Angeles, which attracted 400 youth and parents. This was an opportunity for the SPA/AIC Councils to connect with each other, help build a youth base, and create a space for youth to learn about youth-led community organizing—how to bring out the talents, resources, and strengths in neighborhoods, and how to become active community leaders (2006).

➤ Parent Development

- In partnership with the Palmdale School District, the SPA 1 Council hosted a “parent university” to build the capacity of parents in the region, making resources and workshops available to parents with children from birth to age five (2006).
- The SPA 2 Council created *El Grupo Unidos de Marson Park*, which was created to oversee local activities at Marson Park, mobilize residents to take ownership of their neighborhood, and keep it safe and clean. The group met four times, with an average attendance of 10 to 12 adults and two to four youth. It successfully planned and organized a community construction and planting day in SPA 2 (2007–2008).
- The SPA 2 Council organized the Building a Community of Respect conference at Pacoima Charter Elementary School. The purpose of this event was to create an environment in which community members could identify opportunities to work together to address issues of concern in Pacoima. More than 80 individuals attended representing a variety of stakeholders, including parents, youth, service

providers, city and county officials, law enforcement representatives, and others (2007).

- The SPA 2 Council created a 30-member parent leadership group in Sylmar through a partnership with the mayor of San Fernando, the office of state Senator Alex Padilla, and the Los Angeles Lutheran Middle-Senior High School. The council has provided the group with foundational community building and parent leadership training, and local residents have expressed that they feel more confident and prepared as leaders in their families and community (2007).
- The SPA 3 Council created the La Puente Parent Action Network/Parent Leadership Council at Villacorta Elementary School. The group aims to build relationships among parents at the elementary school, encourage collaboration, and work on community issues to improve their children's environment. The group successfully organized a Neighborhood Watch group, met with representatives of Supervisor Gloria Molina about community issues they felt passionately about, met with representatives from the East Valley Clinic about medical benefits eligibility, and met with the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrants about laws and efforts at immigration reform (2006).
- The SPA 4 Council created *Padres Apoyando Padres*, the Cypress Park Knowing Circle that focuses on advocating for children with special needs. Parents have attended trainings on parents' rights, school systems, and advocacy; they also have built a strong network within the group and support one another by attending school-based parent meetings, including individual education plan (IEP) meetings (2006–2007).
- The SPA 4 Council organized *Padres en Acción*, the Wilson High School Knowing Circle, which has participated in community organizing and family issues training and worked on a school-based safety project to ensure the safety and well-being of students on campus during school hours (2007).
- The SPA 7 Council has provided four leadership and development trainings to its parent groups that focused on individual leadership development and family strengthening. One training, "Family Life: Responsibility and Success," focused on improving parenting skills, improving parents' abilities to communicate effectively with children, and developing and building on parents' ability to strengthen their families (2006).
- The SPA 7 Council organized the Garfield Parent Group, the Hollydale Parent Group in South Gate, the Cudahy Parent Group, the Orange Grove Parent Group, and the Huntington Park Parent Group. It has coordinated numerous training and capacity-building activities for these groups to strengthen members' leadership skills in their families and communities (2006–2008).

➤ Youth Development

- The SPA 2 Council's Golden Hearts Parent/Youth Group coordinated a book giveaway for residents of the Iron Wood Management Building. The youth led the planning of this event, including outreach, coordinating donations, and set-up and tear-down procedures. Meeting bimonthly, the youth group has undergone trainings on outreach strategies, public speaking, agenda setting, note-taking, event planning, and budgeting (2007).
- The SPA 2 Council organized the Saticoy youth group of 6 to 12 youth who live in a local apartment complex and meet to engage in outdoor physical activity and plan events for their community. The youth identified and organized health-related activities including yoga, kick-boxing, anger and stress management, team building, and building healthy relationships (2006–2008).
- The American Indian Children's Council formed United Native Youth L.A. (UNYLA) and hosted 12 bimonthly meetings averaging an attendance of 20 youth and five adults. UNYLA has been successful in creating a venue for American Indian youth to build their capacity to be community leaders through self-identified projects, including youth summits, cultural workshops, political education, health and fitness awareness, basketball tournaments, legislative training, and social events (2007–2008).

Overarching Programs

➤ Community Building Mini-Grants Program

The Community Building Mini-Grants Program started in July 2007 to help parents, residents, and youth partner with service organizations—including local government agencies and community-based organizations—to build relationships, identify shared concerns, and organize to improve their communities. The program provides resources that enable many of the SPA/AIC Council neighborhood networks to undertake projects that contribute to positive community outcomes, as well as build the capacity of the neighborhood groups. These volunteer groups work on a wide range of projects such as parent trainings, neighborhood cleanups, school safety programs, and community gardens. The mini-grants program also builds new ties between the SPA/AIC Councils and other grassroots groups that have not previously worked with them. ~~A full report on the Community Building Mini-Grants Program is included in Attachment C.~~

➤ Center for Community Building

The Center for Community Building (CCB), formerly the Community Building Institute, began receiving County support in 2006. The Center's goal is to provide training and technical assistance to SPA/AIC Council staff, their volunteer members, and local community groups of parents, residents, and youth that will build their leadership capacity in effecting local change, improving the County's five outcomes of child well-being. The Center's intent is to strengthen the relationships between community

groups, health and human services agencies, and other County agencies that affect community life, in an effort to improve conditions for children and families.

Some recent work by the Center includes:

- Partnering with the Center for Community Engagement at Cal State Long Beach to offer classes for Spanish-speaking and emergent leaders (2008)
- Parent leadership trainings using the Parent School Partnership curriculum (2006–2008)
- Trainings on community action research with regard to family economic success for parent facilitators, SPA/AIC Council staff and conveners, and Claremont students (2007)

~~A full report of the Center for Community Building is included in Attachment C.~~

➤ *Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors*

The Children's Planning Council is completing its second year in the development of a parent leadership training program for Latino immigrant parents of children from birth to age five—an initiative whose principal support comes from Wellspring Advisors. The goal of the curriculum is to improve the five outcomes of child well-being for Latino children. The Council's theory of change is that if Latino immigrant parents are supported, informed, educated, and empowered to become their children's most effective advocates in their new country, then their children will be positioned to succeed. The strength of *Abriendo Puertas* is that it was designed, written and tested for Spanish-speaking parents. The 12-session classes have been piloted at eight sites in four different SPAs, and preliminary evaluative results show significant gains in learning by the parents. ~~A full report on *Abriendo Puertas* is included in Attachment C.~~

**Interagency Operations Group
2006-08 Accomplishments
March 2008 Update**

Goal 1: Increase County staff's knowledge of other agencies systems, mission, language, disciplines and funding streams and develop managers and staff committed to collaboration, integrated services and building community capacity

Strategy A: Influence the County's human resource / cultural environment, provide assistance in understanding the environment, and help to develop the specific skills sets required to move in this direction.

- November 2006: Collaborated with the Children's Planning Council (CPC) and the Department of Human Resources to conduct focus groups with Department Representatives (DRs) to the Service Planning Area/American Indian Children's (SPA/AIC) Councils and key stakeholders from the CPC and IOG to produce a recommended position description for the DRs including a role analysis, performance expectations, core competencies and learning objectives to inform the CPC Center for Community Building (CCB) Institutional Partners (IP) training curricula.
- September 2006 – Ongoing: Collaborated with the CPC in the design CCB and the development of the Institutional Partner IP track curriculum.

Goal 2: Support change within IOG Member agencies to achieve the IOG Mission

Strategy A: Support the implementation activities related to major Goal 5 initiatives such as Prevention, MHSA, Homeless Prevention Initiative, Family Economic Success, etc. related to the County's response to the Community Forum input.

- August 2006: Provided funding to the CPC to offset costs (e.g., day care, transportation, facilitation, outreach, consultants, etc.) for the implementation of a six-month countywide community building/engagement process to inform FES policy recommendations that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. (\$14,900)
- December 2006 – January 2007: Conducted a *Community Building Focus Group/Dialogue* with the New Directions Task Force Leadership Team (NDTF) and the NDTF for feedback and guidance regarding the proposed County Community Building (CB) Framework: Definition of Community; CB Statement/Strategies/ Outcome Measures; and, the CBI IP Track Learning Objectives. This feedback will be incorporated into the CCB IP curricula and was used in the Healthier Communities, Stronger Families, and Thriving Children (HST) Demonstration Communities design.
- January 2007: Provided funding to the CPC to complete the Claremont University study to: (1) explore indicators of FES of community members from neighborhood networks in all SPAs; (2) assess the accuracy and relevancy of the CPC's FES framework with County residents; and, (3) develop a research process that builds community capacity and empowers community members to critique programs and conduct their own research re: FES. (\$6,000)

- January 2007 – January 2008: In collaboration with the CAO/SIB and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provided leadership, planning and coordination with a County/foundation work group in the development of the HST Demonstration Communities initiative in response to the *Board's Motion Regarding Establishment of a Community Specific Prevention Program in Los Angeles County*. The NDTF approved the HST design framework at their May 2007 meeting.
- April 2007: In collaboration with the CAO/SIB coordinated development of the Goal 5: 2007-09 Strategies

Goal 3: Maximize opportunities to improve outcomes through service integration

Strategy A: Help ensure successful implementation of the County's Service Integration Action Plan (SIAP).

- August 2007- January 2008: Collaborated with 211 LA County and the CEO/SIB to develop a recommended protocol for updating County service and contact information for 211 so it is providing accurate real-time information to the public.
- December 2006: In collaboration with the CAO/SIB, and, on behalf of the NDTF coordinated the response to the *Melinda P Non Custodial Parents Board Motion* regarding efforts to improve knowledge about services and enhance communication and service integration among all County health and human service departments.

Strategy B: Maximize linkages between philanthropic groups' priorities and services delivered by IOG member agencies.

- September 2006: Presented to NDTF the *County Foundation Strategic Partnerships* report and recommendations highlighting the IOG's Foundation Linkages Work Group (FLWG) contributions to strengthening County and foundation relationships, lessons learned about enhancing partnering with foundations and ways to streamline departments' grant funding processes. The NDTF adopted the recommendations and next steps. Continue to track progress in implementing the recommendations.
- January 2007 – Ongoing: In collaboration with CAO/SIB, CPC, Southern California Grantmakers and other Foundations, continue to dialogue regarding ways to share information to facilitate collaborative planning and joint policy work -
- August 2007: Funded the County's contribution to the Public Private Funders Partnership for Infants and Toddlers (P/PFP) project to map philanthropic investment for the prenatal to three age group in Los Angeles County to identify service gaps, leverage existing investments for greater effect and find new opportunities for collaboration. The P/PFP includes representatives from foundations and the County. Full funding for this Project is \$155,700 coming from member contributions. (\$5,000)

Strategy C: Pursue opportunities to enhance relationships between public schools and County agencies.

- June 2006: Provided funding to the Education Coordinating Council (ECC) for consultant support to guide and coordinate implementation of the Youth Development recommendations outlined in the ECC's action plan *Expecting More: A Blueprint for Raising*

**Interagency Operations Group
2006-08 Accomplishments
March 2008 Update**

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Strategy C: Pursue opportunities to enhance relationships between public schools and County agencies.

- June 2006: Provided funding to the Education Coordinating Council (ECC) for consultant support to guide and coordinate implementation of the Youth Development recommendations outlined in the ECC's action plan *Expecting More: A Blueprint for Raising*

the Educational Achievement of Foster and Probation Youth, approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 14, 2006. (\$35,000)

Examples of ECC Accomplishments during this grant period include:

- Obtained the signatures of the superintendents of five ECC-member school districts—Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) and the Lancaster, Long Beach, Los Angeles and Pasadena school districts--on a letter to address the lack of compliance with state law regarding immediate enrollment of foster youth into school. As a result of this letter, 87% of the youth in the care of Association of Community Human Service Agencies (ACHSA) are now enrolled in school within 3 days.
 - Issued a Blanket Order on June 22, 2006, that instructs schools in Los Angeles County to provide basic educational information to DCFS and Probation caseworkers, children's attorneys, and Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) without the requirement of parental consent. In January, 2007, the ECC ratified a Collaborative Agreement and process for sharing educational information among ECC member organizations and its partner agencies (thereby implementing this Blanket Order).
 - Expanded the Library Card Initiative passed by your Board in December, giving library cards not only to all youth in juvenile halls and camps, but to all youth on probation or at risk of becoming so. This enables them to access free Internet-based tutoring for grades 4 through 12.
 - Provided a series of after-school enrichment opportunities that included: a year-round Youth Employment Program for probation and at-risk youth at various Los Angeles City park sites
 - Worked to make educational achievement one of the mandatory recorded outcomes for Mental Health Services Act contracts.
-
- March 2007: Provided a letter of support to the California Department of Education for LAUSD for the expansion of Healthy Start sites. LAUSD received funding and will be implementing three new Healthy Start sites at Dorsey High School, West Athens Elementary School and Gratts Elementary School.
 - August 2007: Provided funding to the ECC to support a variety of activities which include: the first ever data match between the County and the Lancaster School District to identify the schools with the highest numbers of children and youth in the DCFS/Probation service system to allow schools, County departments and community agencies to direct resources to the areas of greatest need; partnering with Healthy City to create regionalized resource maps; and, piloting the Youth Development Work Group recommendations to increase the participation of DCFS and probation youth in after-school and summer enrichment programs in at least one of the HST communities. (\$32,500)

Examples of ECC Accomplishments during this grant period include:

- Brokered an agreement between DCFS and LAUSD whereby DCFS will send LAUSD, three times per year, the names of all youth receiving DCFS services.

LAUSD will then identify who are district students so that they can be connected to specialized services.

- Completed data matches with the Pomona and Montebello Unified School Districts, DCFS and Probation to determine the names of shared youth, which schools they attend, and how they are faring academically compared to other district students. Additional data matches are now underway with the Los Angeles, Long Beach, Norwalk/La Mirada and Lancaster school districts.
- Based on the LAUSD data match, Healthy City mapped the location of foster and probation youth by city council district, indicating what city resources are available for these youth in each district.
- LAUSD, LACOE and Probation are piloting a joint electronic education record-sharing program for probation students to facilitate the transition of camp youth back into district schools.
- The City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Police Department, Probation, and LAUSD have created 24 safe school collaboratives which align local efforts to create safer schools and safer passages to and from schools.
- Worked with LAUSD, DCFS and Probation on a training component for school staff on the needs of foster and probation youth. 800 school-based advocates have been trained on this curriculum to date.
- The ECC is overseeing the issuance of \$100,000 in college scholarship funds to probation youth honored at the department's Success is Our Future event last May. These funds, provided by a private donor, will help meet the financial needs of these scholarship recipients throughout their undergraduate years.
- DCFS created a one-page information sheet, at the request of school superintendents, outlining department contact information (who to contact and how to contact them) for school district personnel seeking information about DCFS youth.
- All judicial officers are using the education information form in the education case plan developed by the ECC and regularly asking questions about the education of the children and youth they are responsible for and requesting education reports from the field.

Strategy D: Pursue the coordination of Transportation services to improve access to County health and human services

- TBD – will explore potential in the HST Demonstration Communities.

<p>Goal 4: Promote and support community building through strength-based assessment, planning and evaluation</p>

Strategy A: Facilitate the evolving role of the Departmental Representatives (DR) to the SPA/AIC Councils to enable the DRs to the SPA/AIC Councils to support the CPC in its efforts to strengthen the SPA/AIC Councils.

- December 2006 – Ongoing: Presented to the NDTF Leadership and the NDTF recommended definitions of “community” and “community building” and community building

practices. These definitions and concepts will be tested in the HST Demonstration Communities and refined for countywide application.

- April 2007 – September 2007: Developed the IOG Demonstration Impact Grant (DIG) proposal designed to provide funds to the DRs to the SPA/AIC Councils to encourage collaborative projects with the Councils to support the implementation of Goal 5, the County's Response to the Community Forums, community building and the SPA/AIC Council Work Plans. The Proposal includes input from key stakeholders, i.e. NDTF, DRs to the SPA/AIC Councils and the CPC; training sessions and technical assistance to the DRs and Council representatives regarding the DIG purpose, requirements and application process.
- August 2007 – December 2007: Conducted three *DIG Training and Hands-On Working Sessions* for approximately 100 participants, including DRs, SPA/AIC Council coordinators/conveners, CPC, community partners and neighborhood residents. Continue to provide mentoring support to SPA Council DIG Applicant Teams.
- October 2007: Implemented the DIG Project, with an allocation of \$90,000. Grants have been awarded to the Councils for the following projects:
 - American Indian Children's Council (AICC) - The "AICC's 10th Anniversary: Honoring a Decade of Leadership and Building a Stronger Community" event and related planning. Key goals were to: (1) build community with Native and non-native volunteers, including volunteers to assist with AICC objectives such as the Native VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) site; (2) encourage youth to assume and continue leadership roles in initiatives aimed at sustaining and supporting a stronger and healthier Native American community in Los Angeles County; (3) encourage more Native American families to become foster families and/or mentors to Native American youth in Los Angeles County, in collaboration with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Task Force and, (4) promote greater awareness of how to access culturally relevant mental health resources. (\$10,000 to be augmented by other funders and in kind support)

As of March, 2008 some of the outcomes from the event are: 1) increased membership within the Council, including participants who now hold leadership positions on the Council; and, 2) increased volunteer youth participation in meetings, activities and community events. In January 2008, a follow-up meeting of the ICWA Task Force demonstrated a stronger, more unified coalition of county and community regarding children in foster care.

 - SPA Council 2 – The "Anti-Gang Media Campaign," will implement a multidimensional effort to empower youth to reject gang involvement. The Campaign will increase the frequency and expand the coverage of gang prevention messages throughout the SPA through a collaborative of civic, community, educational, governmental, faith- and community-based organizations. The target audiences are youth, parents, teachers, caregivers, and other influential adults in the community. Youth will be involved in all facets of the project, including filming and editing videos and presenting the finished products to other youth and to adults. The skills they learn will be marketable for future employment opportunities. (\$10,000 to be augmented by matching grants from other funders and in kind support from two local community based organizations)

- SPA Council 3 – “Strengthening Families in Communities At Risk – A Youth and Parent Conference”, which will be held April 16, 2008 in coordination with the Pomona Unified School District, LACOE, DPSS and Probation brings together 200 at-risk youth and their parents plus 50 stakeholders to inform and initiate dialogues among the participants about: fostering communication and building relationships that encourage healthy beliefs and clear standards for behavior in their families, schools and communities; encouraging participation and accessing resources from supportive agencies and grass roots organizations; promoting opportunities for youth to be involved with their families, schools and communities in meaningful, developmentally appropriate ways and to be recognized and valued for this. (\$5,000)
- SPA 3 Council – Will establish a Parent Resource Center (PRC) staffed, in part, by trained parent volunteers. The PRC goals are to: (1) be an information center open after regular working hours and weekend to provide written information from public and non profit organizations as well as high speed internet access where trained parents can assist families in accessing service and resource support information; (2) serve as a parent training site to complement existing parent and school initiatives; and, (3) be a supportive space for parents to share and learn ways of better communicating with their middle and high school age youth. There will be a particular outreach to parents whose children are at risk of joining gangs. This project will strengthen community networks to address safety and quality of life issues. This is a collaborative project with numerous existing service agencies working together. (\$5,000 to be augmented with additional in-kind contributions and grants totaling \$17,220)
- SPA 5 Council – Will conduct a “Special Needs Children” Educational Training Project, which will include eight educational workshops plus one pre and post community outreach event, to collect data for project evaluation and establish peer-to- peer support. The project goals are to increase access to appropriate programs and services and to strengthen service integration and collaboration. To encourage community capacity building, the project design includes community level planning and the training of parent facilitators to co lead the workshops with subject experts. Parent facilitator training topics will include: Implications of Family Strengthening Policies; Helping Families Thrive and Succeed, Strategies that Promote Family Economic Success and Effective Communications within the Many Systems of Care for Parents and Children with Special Needs. Educational work shops will include system navigation, creating allies, caring for the caregiver and family economic well being. (\$10,000 to be augmented by in kind contributions from County departments and community based organizations and volunteer support from subject experts and resource providers)
- SPA 7 Council – “Strong Families Build Strong Communities” event will focus on issues impacting youth who are at risk by working to strengthen the core structure of families. The event will feature a community play entitled “La Vida Es Asi”, which will highlight issues related to domestic violence, substance abuse, gang activity, strength and resilience and a follow up Circles of Strength discussion to include County representatives, community and faith based organizations (CBO/FBO) and community residents. This discussion will identify community residents who are interested in forming Parent/Neighborhood Action Groups and County and CBO/ FBO agencies that can support the groups. This will encourage greater collaboration, coordination and service integration among the public and private

agencies who often work separately to address the same issues within communities. It is expected that 800 people will participate in the event. (\$10,000 to be augmented by in kind contributions from County departments and community based partners for photocopying and outreach materials)

- April 2008 – Funded the CPC request for stipends to send a 30-member delegation made up of County Department Representatives, SPA/AIC Council representatives and parent and youth leaders to participate in the California Family Resource Association Second Biennial Policy Conference *The Time is Now – Prioritizing Family Strengthening Policy in California* conference, co sponsored by the CPC, to learn how to work together more effectively to advance a family strengthening policy agenda within their departments, Councils, organizations and communities. Following the Conference, the participants met as a group for a post-conference debriefing and planning session, and as Teams identified 1-3 common activities/policy areas they will work on collaboratively to immediately apply the skills learned during the conference to address County department and community/SPA/AIC Council Work Plan priorities. In addition to funding the participation of the delegates, the IOG provided consultant support to work collaboratively with the CPC to select the delegation and to support a series of policy focused workshops to link the SPA/AIC Councils, community and CFRA to ensure that the outcomes envisioned by participation in the Conference are achieved. (\$10,500)